



President's Report of Southeast Asian Ceramic Society for the year ending 31 December 2007

The Council

The following were elected to the council for year ended 31 December 2007

President	Marjorie Chu
Vice Presidents	Alvin Chia Cheryl van Steenwyk
Honorary Secretary	Kristina Gardin
Honorary Treasurer	Sue Sismondo
Councillors	Lim Yah Chiew Ingrid Hanson Eu Yvonne Tan James Khoo John Miksic Tan Shook Fong
Honorary Auditors	Ms Aileen Lau Mr Johannes Rizal

Membership

Membership of the Society as of 31 December 2007 was as follows:

Life Members	43	(we welcomed 4 new life members)
Life Members overseas	2	
Overseas Members	3	
Ordinary Members	<u>91</u>	
Total	<u>139</u>	

Membership renewal forms and Application for membership forms are available at the foyer. Should you need to apply for membership any of our members will be happy to be proposers and seconders.

Website

www.seaceramic.org.sg

Our thanks to Michelle Chin for her diligence in maintaining the website, to the extent that we get frequent praise from overseas ceramic societies.

Events and Activities

If you visit the website you will note that 2007 was an eventful year for ceramic studies.

The major event was **Workshop on the Chinese Export Ceramic Trade in Southeast Asia** which highlighted recent advances in archaeological, maritime, and ceramic research on the ceramic export trade in both China and Southeast Asia organised by NUS and held in Singapore on 12 to 14 March 2007. Many of our members attended the workshop.

Following the above workshop SEACS invited John Guy to deliver the **William Willett's Lecture** on Asian Ceramics in Production and Trade in Southeast Asia's 'Age of Empires'. The lecture saw a full house.

Rose Kerr and Rosemary Scott visited Singapore in 2007 and they talked on **The Functions of Ceramics in Song Society** and **The Significance of an Exquisite Falangcai Bowl, Belitong Cargo** respectively.

Our own members did much for ceramics during 2007:

- **Denis Low's Chinese Snuff Bottles exhibition @ ACM** : the collection was on display from July to November 2007.
- **John Miksic** lectured on **Yuan Dynasty Blue and White Ceramics in SE Asia**.
- **John Miksic** and **Lim Chen Sian** were engaged by Sentosa Corporation to conduct an archaeological survey of the island's rich military history. The team uncovered ceramic shards dating back to mid- and late Ming and late imperial Qing dynasties, confirming the bustling maritime trade of early Singapore. **Alvin Chia**, who works for Sentosa, was excited to be involved in this project with fellow SEACS members.
- **John Miksic** and **Sharon Wong** conducted excavation at Phnom Kulen, an ancient Khmer site which reveals important information about Khmer architecture of the 1st millennium and ceramic technology.
- **James Khoo** and **Kwa Chong Guan** also visited the site in mid-December 2007. The project was partly funded by SEACS, using the balance of the James Khoo Fund from the Lee Foundation.
- **Lim Yah Chew** presented a paper on Tang Blue and White Ceramics found in the Belitong Cargo at the International Conference on Ceramic Research.

The activities committee arranged a tour to **Vietnam** as well as a tour to **Hong Kong** to coincide with the Christies' auctions but not enough members signed up so the two tours were cancelled.

Special Thanks

Much appreciation goes to my councillors for helping me through 2007 especially the treasurer, Sue and the events organisers Cheryl and Ingrid.

The Society and its future

Through our website we hope to reach our Society members and members of other like-minded societies here and abroad. The website will provide opportunities for our members to be linked with other societies and institutions and take part in event organised by them. This is an opportunity for others to learn about our activities and we hope that they will join and share our interests.

As for our own society we can look forward to more scholarly discussions by specialists both from Asia and beyond who are attracted by our Belitong Cargo.

We will also be seeking out our own member scholars to lecture on their ceramic and archaeological research and visits to overseas museums and kiln sites.

Marjorie Chu
President 2007